

Private Security / Private Detective
STUDY GUIDE

Firearm Certification



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These materials are intended to assist the private security guard or private detective in preparing for the firearms certification process. They are provided by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission pursuant to RCW 18.160 & 43.101

While this study guide addresses the use of force, deadly force, and firearms, it is not legal advice. The explanations contained in this guide have been reviewed by an attorney and have been stated as clearly as possible. Unfortunately, the law and its interpretation by the courts are not always so clear-cut. Also, statutes and rules based on court decisions may change over time. While periodic revisions to this study guide will be made as the statutes and decision-based rules change, care must be taken by the user to learn of revisions of applicable law. You should consult with your own attorney to obtain legal advice. It is recommended that employers have this study guide reviewed by their own legal counsel.

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INTRODUCTION

In 1991, the Washington State Legislature, with the support of the private security industry, enacted several bills requiring the licensing of both private security guards and private detectives. Those licensed guards and detectives who carry firearms in the course of their jobs are also required to have a firearms certification from the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, and to recertify each year. This firearms certification qualifies you for a special armed private security guard or armed private detective license.

This firearms certification in which you are participating is an eight-hour program, and the recertification is a four-hour program. According to law, you may not carry a firearm in the performance of your duties until you have been issued an armed private security or armed private detective license. There is no temporary provision in the law; even successful completion of this certification does not allow you to perform your duties armed. You must possess an armed private security guard or armed private detective license before carrying a firearm while working.

This certification is a combination of instruction and testing. It is not intended to be a basic firearms or marksmanship course - you or your employer should have provided weapon handling and marksmanship training prior to this certification. Since the study materials have been sent to you prior to the certification, you will be able to study and master the written material which will be presented and tested, and the skills and shooting abilities required.

Here are the program requirements:

- You must be certified with the type of firearm(s) you will carry or use.
- All written questions must be answered correctly - that is, 100% is required to pass (You are allowed to use your notes and discuss your answers with the instructor).
- You must successfully demonstrate all firearm-handling skills required - this is a pass/fail test and failure to demonstrate proficiency will result in failure of the certification process.
- You must successfully complete the firing qualification.
- Your employer must initiate the firearms certification process and application, but the firearms certificate is issued in the name of the individual guard or detective.
- Any safety violation that you commit during the process of certification **may** result in failure.

The instructor will provide you with clear rules and instructions as you proceed through this certification. In order to maintain safety both in the classroom and on the range, the instructor has absolute authority in regard to how you handle any firearm.

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Failure to comply with the instructor's commands may result in dismissal from the certification process. If you witness unsafe range practices by the certifying instructor, you should advise the instructor of your concerns immediately. If the instructor does not provide an acceptable explanation or response, remove yourself from the range and notify the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission as quickly as possible.

If you fail this certification, your employer may enroll you in future certification programs. There is no limit to the number of attempts at certification. It is the responsibility of the employer to provide whatever training is necessary to successfully accomplish this firearm certification.

Review of Test Questions

You may not perform the duties of an armed private security guard or armed private detective while waiting for your armed license to be issued by the Department or Licensing.

You must be certified with each firearm that you will use on the job. A change in the type of firearm you use requires recertification.

The instructor has absolute authority over the handling of firearms during this certification.

CHOOSING TO CARRY A GUN

Choosing to carry a gun as a security guard or private detective is a personal choice that you must make. Your employer does not make this decision for you. You must decide if:

- you are willing to shoot and possibly kill someone who threatens your life or the life of another person who is with you;
- you are capable of making the on-the-spot decision to use deadly force;
- you thoroughly understand the law on the use of deadly force;
- you are able to live with your decision after injuring or killing someone.

If you have doubts about any of these issues, then you are not prepared to carry a gun in the performance of your job. You must resolve any questions you have about your willingness and ability to use deadly force before you carry a gun. If you fail to make these important decisions now, you will jeopardize your own life, and the lives of other people with whom you work. You cannot view the gun as just a threat that you will not actually use. You must be willing to take another's life if the situation requires this action.

Review of Test Questions

The decision to carry or use a gun is a personal choice that is made by you.

Before carrying a gun, you must thoroughly understand the law on the use of deadly force.

USE OF LESS-THAN-DEADLY FORCE by a Security Guard or Detective

This certification deals primarily with the use of firearms, and thus, deadly force. The use of deadly force by a private security guard or private detective is likely to occur during the confrontation or apprehension of a suspect, or in defense against an attack. In such situations, the law allows the use of necessary force, but it is important to note that deadly force is not permitted except as a last resort.

In order to understand when deadly force can be used, it is necessary to first understand when less-than-deadly physical force or restraint is permitted. Here is the statute that addresses the use of less-than-deadly physical force:

RCW 9A.16.020, "Use of Force - When Lawful"

"The use, attempt, or offer to use force upon or toward the person of another is not unlawful in the following cases:

- (1) Whenever necessarily used by a public officer in the performance of a legal duty, or a person assisting the officer and acting under the officer's direction;
- (2) Whenever necessarily used by a person arresting one who has committed a felony and delivering him or her to a public officer competent to receive him or her into custody;
- (3) Whenever used by a party about to be injured, or by another lawfully aiding him or her, in preventing or attempting to prevent an offense against his or her person, or a malicious trespass, or other malicious interference with real or personal property lawfully in his or her possession, in case the force is not more than is necessary;
- (4) Whenever reasonably used by a person to detain someone who enters or remains unlawfully in a building or on real property lawfully in the possession of such person, so long as such detention is reasonable in duration and manner to investigate the reason for the detained person's presence on the premises, and so long as the premises in question did not reasonably appear to be intended to be open to members of the public;
- (5) Whenever used by a carrier of passengers or the carrier's authorized agent or servant, or other person assisting them at their request in expelling from a carriage, railway car, vessel, or other vehicle, a passenger who refuses to obey a lawful and reasonable regulation prescribed for the conduct of passengers, if such vehicle has first been stopped and the force used is not more than is necessary to expel the offender with reasonable regard to the offender's personal safety;
- (6) Whenever used by any person to prevent a mentally ill, mentally incompetent, or mentally disabled person from committing an act dangerous to any person, or in enforcing necessary restraint for the protection or restoration to health of the person during such period only as is necessary to obtain legal authority for the restraint or custody of the person."

In addition to the above lawful uses of force, RCW 9A.16.080 specifically allows a peace officer, merchant, or his authorized employee or agent to detain a suspect, "...in a reasonable manner and for not more than a reasonable time to permit such investigation or questioning..." if there exists, "...reasonable grounds to believe that the person so detained was committing or attempting to commit theft or shoplifting..." This lawful use of force is limited to the premises or immediate vicinity where the suspected theft took place. The law allows the detention for suspected shoplifting no matter what the value of the merchandise. Thus, shoplifting is one situation where you are allowed to detain a suspect for a misdemeanor crime.

While these statutes address many specific situations, the basic rule is that a citizen may use only that minimum level of force necessary to:

1. arrest a person you know has committed a felony;
2. protect yourself or another from assault or injury;
3. prevent theft or property damage;
4. detain a trespasser for the purpose of investigation; or
5. detain a suspected shoplifter.

Since this is not a course in what constitutes "reasonable cause," you should request additional training and clarification from your employer if you have doubts or questions about when you can confront, question, detain or arrest a suspect.

Review of Test Questions

You may use only reasonable and necessary force to protect property or lawfully detain a suspected criminal.

USE OF DEADLY FORCE

As explained above, the law allows a private individual to use necessary and reasonable force to arrest a felon, detain a shoplifter or trespasser, and protect life or property. The law does not generally allow an individual to use deadly force for these purposes.

Washington law allows the use of deadly force by a peace officer, under the provisions of 9A.16.040. Private security guards and private detectives are not peace officers and the situations in which they may use deadly force are set forth in RCW 9A.16.050:

RCW 9A.16.050 Homicide - By Other Person - When Justifiable

Homicide is also justifiable when committed either:

- (1) In the lawful defense of the slayer, or his or her husband, wife, parent, child, brother, or sister, or of any other person in his presence or company, when there is reasonable ground to apprehend a design on the part of the person slain to commit a felony or to do some great personal injury to the slayer or to any such person, and there is imminent danger of such design being accomplished; or
- (2) In the actual resistance of an attempt to commit a felony upon the slayer, in his presence, or upon or in a dwelling, or other place of abode, in which he is.

An argument can be made that RCW 9A.16.040 "Use of Deadly Force by Public Officer" applies to private citizens under some circumstances (see Section 3, chapter 209, Laws of 1986). However, the authors of this guide believe that the safest legal approach is to limit the use of deadly force to those situations in 9A.16.050.

In summary, although the law appears to allow some latitude in the use of deadly force, it is recommended that deadly force be use by a private security guard/detective only:

1. in defense of his/her own life (to prevent someone from seriously injuring or killing him or herself.)
2. in the defense of another's life (to prevent someone from seriously injuring or killing another person in his/her presence.)

Review of Test Questions

The law does not usually allow you to use deadly force to prevent a property crime.

The law allows you to use deadly force to defend your life.

The law allows you to use deadly force to defend another person's life.

ESCALATION OF FORCE CONTINUUM

While your employers policies may only permit officers who have the proper training with a defensive weapon(s) to carry that weapon(s) and only on assignments that authorize the use of defensive weapons, you still have the legal right to defend yourself with that level of force which is reasonable and necessary to protect your life or the life of another from harm, great personal injury or death.

You, as a private security guard or private detective (or any person for that matter) may legally do whatever is reasonable and necessary to protect your life or the life of another. While you may be issued and carry primary self defense weapons such as firearms and chemical sprays, you may improvise and use any object at your disposal to protect yourself or another in a manner that is reasonable and necessary if you do not have a defensive weapon, such as when working on unarmed sites, or you do not have access to your primary weapons or your primary weapons are inoperative.

In any situation that arises, you will be expected to act in good faith, use good judgment and take an appropriate and reasonable course of action.

The circumstances that may lead to the use of force or deadly force by a private security guard or private detective cannot be predicted but they will probably arise out of the job situation. Some examples are: A guard happens upon a crime in progress, a guard is protecting property which is the target of a robbery or burglary, a guard confronts a trespasser or intruder, a detective is assaulted during an investigation. It is clear that the law does not permit the use of deadly force in order to protect property. But the law does not require that you allow a criminal to successfully complete his crime without interference. You may use reasonable and necessary force to prevent the occurrence of a crime and to detain a shoplifter or arrest a felon, or to protect yourself from an assault.

The key concept is that you may use only as much force as is required to prevent the escape of the suspect or the continuation of the assault. To use an exaggerated example, a store security guard cannot shoot a shoplifter who chooses to run. In this case a reasonable application of force would begin with verbal (voice) commands such as "stop!" and continue with hands-on attempts at control.

If the shoplifter were to draw a pistol or other deadly weapon after being stopped, and threaten the guard with the pistol, then the guard is justified in using deadly force in self-defense. Note that the guard is not permitted to use deadly force to stop the shoplifter or detain the suspect - the guard is only allowed to use deadly force when he/she or someone else in his/her presence is threatened with death or great personal injury. The level of force used must correspond to the amount of force used in the attempt to escape or assault, plus whatever additional force is required to overcome the escape or assault.

As a security officer, your primary goal in a confrontation or an attack is to defend yourself or others from the assailant and/or control the situation. It is imperative that control/defense not be a 50/50 balance. You should have a better than 50/50 chance of winning and not just 50 percent of the time. You must generally use greater force than your attacker, but not deadly force.

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In real life, the difficulty lies in making the split second decision to apply the correct, reasonable, necessary and effective level of force. Here is a chart that will help you understand how the level of force you use corresponds with a suspect's resistance. Keep in mind that an incident may start at a higher level or may escalate quite quickly. Thus, you may need to start at or go to a higher level of force to gain control of the situation and/or defend yourself or others.

ESCALATION OF FORCE CONTINUUM	
RESISTANCE - What the suspect does	RESPONSE - What the guard/detective does
PRESENCE Resistive Presence Verbal Resistance Refusing to Comply	PRESENCE Communicating - Gathering Information Verbal Requests Giving Choices/ Setting Limits Giving Directions/ Verbal Warnings *CONTROL*
RESISTANCE Refuses to Leave Passive Resistance Actively aggressive Attempts to Escape	DEFENSIVE TACTICS LEVEL I OPEN HAND DEFENSIVE TACTICS Restraining Techniques Hair Holds Pepper Spray *CONTROL*
NON LETHAL ATTACK Open Hand Attack Closed Hand Attack Punches and Kicks	DEFENSIVE TACTICS LEVEL II NON LETHAL DEFENSIVE TACTICS Restraining Techniques Pepper Sprays Punches and Kicks / Impact Weapons *CONTROL*
LETHAL ATTACK Non Lethal Weapons Used in a Lethal Manner Any Object Used in a Lethal Manner Attempts to Disarm You Lethal Weapons Firearms	DEFENSIVE TACTICS LEVEL III DEFENSIVE LETHAL FORCE Lethal Weapons Firearms

This continuum includes many different kinds of skills and types of weapons. If you do not have these available to you then you have fewer choices. The point of this continuum is that the level of force you use must be directly related to the force used against you.

TOTALITY OF CIRCUMSTANCES

When faced with a situation, you must assess the totality of the situation so that you may respond with the appropriate level of force. Circumstances to consider may include, but not limited to:

Age: The age of the attacker versus the age of the security officer. One or the other may be younger and more physically fit. A teenager has twice the stamina of a person of about 40.

Physical Size: A person may have superior size and/or strength and may not be able to be controlled or moved by a smaller person.

Fitness: The fitness level of a person that engages in regular activity may give them an advantage over a less fit person.

Skill Level: A highly trained individual may have a distinct advantage over a person with a lesser skill level. This is true in self-defense, just like it is in sports. Does the attacker have military, boxing, wrestling or martial arts skills or training that may give him/her an advantage over you?

Numbers: Security officers need to consider the number of attackers versus the number of defenders. There really is power in numbers.

Weapons: Whether or not the attacker has a weapon or access to a weapon is a serious concern. Also how dangerous is the weapon that the attacker(s) has access to. Are there common everyday items within reach that may be used as a weapon?

Injury/Exhaustion: Are you or the attacker injured or exhausted? How much longer are you able to continue your defense before you succumb to exhaustion?

Position of Advantage: Who has the position of advantage? Are there obstacles between you and the attacker(s)? Who has the best ground position? Is there available cover? Do you and/or others have a clear path to retreat?

Special Knowledge: Do you or the attacker have any special knowledge that will give one of you an advantage? Do you have any special knowledge of the particular attacker - for instance, that he regularly carries a knife, or that he has attacked and injured people in the past?

Seriousness of the Offense: Does the seriousness of the offense warrant the level of force to be applied.

Aggressiveness of the Attacker(s): A determined or angry attacker is a lot harder to defend against than an attacker whose heart is not in it. Emotions play a large part in a person's behavior. They may not be thinking clearly due to their mental state.

Intoxication or Use of Drugs: Alcohol alters a person's judgment. Drugs may also alter a person's judgment and/or perception. Some drugs may also give person added strength.

Propensity for Violence: The person may have a known propensity for violence. A history of violence in a person's past is a good indicator that the person will continue violent behavior. Persons with mental disabilities may not be able to reason.

Innocent People in the Area: Are there innocent people nearby who are in danger from the individual(s) if a violent encounter occurs or cannot be controlled quickly?

Security Guards Ability to Summon Aid or Assistance: Will the guard or detective have an opportunity to summon aid or assistance if suddenly attacked. How far away and how long will it take for basic law enforcement personnel to arrive?

Degree of Harm Which Failure to Control the Subject May Create: If the security guard or detective is not able to control or stop the subject, what property may be destroyed or stolen and/or who may be at risk of attack next?

Other Prevailing Environmental and Tactical Conditions: It is impossible to list every possible factor. What unforeseen conditions exist?

It is reasonable that a discrepancy in the age, gender, physical size, fitness or skill level of individuals involved in the confrontation may dictate that an officer use more or less force to control a situation or defend against an attacker(s). It may also be reasonable for a single security officer to use more force in controlling or defending against multiple attackers.

Review of Test Questions

Any use of force by you must be no more than that which is reasonable and necessary to overcome resistance to order.

DUTY TO ACT

A law enforcement officer has a duty to act when confronted with illegal behavior or resistance to a lawful command. The citizen, private security guard or detective may often choose to observe and report criminal behavior rather than attempt to overcome the resistance or forcibly detain. Unless faced with a deadly threat from which it is impossible to escape, the guard or detective would be well advised to withdraw or retreat to a position of safety, while calling for police assistance. While the law may allow you to use a certain level of force to make an arrest or detention, it may be prudent to withdraw from a situation that you believe may escalate. You are never required by law to use force or deadly force.

Review of Test Questions

A private citizen has no duty or requirement to use deadly force in any situation.

The responsibility of most guards is to observe, deter and report and a guard's presence does not guarantee that an incident will not occur. In an emergency involving your client, your first priority should be for your safety. Next, you may have a contractual responsibility to take appropriate action within your ability to do so to protect your client from harm. You always have discretionary ability and are never required to use force. Your employer may have procedures and/or guidelines for you to follow in the event of an emergency. Depending upon the circumstances, appropriate action to take may include rendering first aid, summoning police, fire or medical aid, escorting the client to a position of safety, directing emergency personnel to the scene, attempting to deter/interrupt an attack by your presence and verbal intervention and/or attempting to fend off the attack. A security officer or private detective who stands by and does nothing may leave him/herself and their employer subject to civil suit by the client he/she's expected to protect.

RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER USING FORCE

If you have used force of any kind, including deadly force, and if your assailant is no longer a threat, then you should administer first aid, within your ability to do so, and summon medical assistance. This may mean that you stop bleeding and treat for shock. In order to do this safely, it is first advisable to handcuff the wounded individual so that he or she cannot attack or disarm you as you administer first aid.

Call the police as soon as possible if you used/drew your weapon. If the threat has been contained and it is safe to do so, holster your gun. Since the police will be responding to a “shots fired” call, they may approach the scene with caution and with guns drawn. It is critical that you identify yourself clearly and do not point your gun at the responding officers. Have your identification in your hand and keep your hands clearly away from your gun. Follow orders given by the officers. If you are not in uniform, these steps are even more important since it will be impossible for the officers to know that you are a security officer or detective.

You are not required to talk to the police after shooting someone. You may wish to talk to an attorney before giving a statement. If you refuse to give information to the police, you may be detained or arrested based on the information known to the officers at that time. Before you begin to carry a gun as part of your job, you may wish to talk with your employer about what kind of legal assistance will be provided for you.

Review of Test Questions

You are not required to talk to the police before you have a chance to get legal advice.

You should administer first aid to someone you have injured, when it is safe to do so.

You must call for medical and police assistance as soon as possible.

You should identify yourself clearly and pose no threat to the police in order to reduce the chance that you will be mistaken for a criminal.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR UNLAWFUL USE OF FORCE

Use of force or deadly force when law does not allow it may result in your arrest for assault or homicide.

Criminal charges for an assault with a firearm do not necessarily require that the gun be fired; for example, someone who threatens another without legal justification by pointing a gun at him or her has committed an assault. An assault with a firearm is usually considered to be a first or second-degree assault (both of these are felonies). Conviction of such a crime may carry a sentence from ten to 20 years.

Should your use of force result in the unlawful death of another person, you may be charged with either manslaughter if your recklessness caused the death, or murder if you intended to kill the person. Penalties for manslaughter may be up to ten years in prison. Murder carries a sentence up to life in prison, unless certain aggravating circumstances exist, in which case the court may impose the death penalty.

It is your responsibility as the person carrying or using a weapon to use it responsibly and within the law. Neither your employer nor any other person is criminally responsible for your acts with a firearm. Under criminal law, you alone have the responsibility for any display or firing of a firearm. If you have any doubt about your ability to make crucial life-and-death decisions regarding the use of deadly force, then you should not carry a firearm.

Review of Test Questions

Your employer is not criminally responsible for your actions with a firearm.

Pointing a firearm at another person, without a legitimate reason to do so, is an assault.

Recklessness by you that results in the death of another is manslaughter.

Intentional and unlawful killing of another person is criminal homicide.

CIVIL LIABILITY FOR USE OF FORCE

Should you use force or deadly force that causes harm or injury to someone, you may be sued in civil court for damages. Generally the person suing must show that he or she has been damaged, that your actions caused the damage, or that you acted recklessly and without legal justification. (These facts must be demonstrated with a preponderance of the evidence, which means that the weight of the facts supports the claim against you.)

Usually, your defense will be that the injured party, by his own acts, brought about the injury; and that your actions were within the law and in defense of yourself or another. A judge or jury decides each case based on the facts presented.

Review of Test Questions

Someone whom you injure may sue you for monetary damages if you have used force recklessly or illegally.

Your best defense against a civil suit is knowledge of the law, good judgment, and adequate training with your weapon and on use of force.

SHOOTING DECISIONS

The decision to draw or point your gun, or to shoot or not shoot someone must be made instantly and correctly. Only practiced thought and good judgment will allow you to make good shooting decisions.

Verbal Identification and Commands

In some cases, you may have the opportunity to control a potentially deadly situation by giving clear verbal commands. In all situations you should identify yourself if at all possible. It is not reasonable to expect that someone will follow your orders if you are not in uniform or if they cannot see who you are, unless you have clearly identified yourself. The proper form of self-identification is a matter of your employer's policy but here are some choices:

- "security officer,"
- "security,"
- "private security,"
- "armed security,"
- "private detective,"
- "armed private detective."

If someone is moving or escaping or making a threatening movement, the proper commands include:

- "stop,"
- "don't move,"
- "raise your hands,"
- "let me see your hands."

If someone is making a threatening movement that you feel is a deadly threat, then before shooting (time permitting) you should use a command like:

- "Stop or I'll shoot."
- "Drop the gun/knife/weapon or I'll shoot."

Although we cannot give you commands for every situation you may be in, whatever command you give must be loud, clear and repeated until the subject complies. Do not use slang (like "freeze"), which might be misinterpreted.

You are not required to give verbal commands prior to using deadly force if you are in the process of defending yourself and could not reasonably be expected to do so. You should practice verbal commands on your own and on the range during practice.

Review of Test Questions

When confronting someone or giving commands, you should identify yourself.

You should give a command like, "Stop or I will shoot" before using deadly force, if time allows you to do so.

Decision Making

Continual practice will improve your ability to make quick, accurate shoot/don't shoot decisions. This practice may be mental (creating "what if" situations in your head and solving them), done on the range with a coach and shoot/don't shoot targets, or simulated (through the use of films or other visual simulations).

Three conditions must exist to justify the use of deadly force. These three are:

1. The **ABILITY** exists for another person to do you great personal injury or cause your death.
2. The **OPPORTUNITY** exists for another person to do you great personal injury or cause your death.
3. Your life is in **JEOPARDY** because of the actions of this person.

Ask yourself these questions:

Does this person have the **ABILITY** to do me great physical harm or to kill me? This usually means that this person has a weapon. The weapon could be a gun, a knife, a club, a piece of pipe, or a wood 2x4. Some people have the strength or **ABILITY** to seriously damage or kill you with just their hands. Multiple attackers may also be able to seriously harm or kill you even though they are unarmed.

Does this person have the **OPPORTUNITY** to do me great physical harm or to kill me? This means that the person is in a location or at a distance that will permit them to harm you. A man with a knife is not a threat to you when he is 100 yards away, but he will be able to kill you within two seconds when he is only seven yards from you. Thus, at 100 yards he does not have the **OPPORTUNITY** to harm you, but at seven yards he does have the **OPPORTUNITY**. A man with a high power rifle is a deadly threat when he is 1000 yards away. Obviously the **OPPORTUNITY** can change very quickly. Things that might affect this include distance, the type of weapon involved, and the kind of protection or cover that you have.

Does this person put you or another person in **JEOPARDY** by his or her actions? This means that the person's actions are directed at someone in such a way that they may cause a person great physical harm or kill him/her. For example, a man walking toward you carrying a shotgun has a weapon (**ABILITY**), is within 20 yards and can see you (**OPPORTUNITY**), but unless he points the shotgun at you and unless you believe that he intends to do you harm, **JEOPARDY** does not exist. The situation you are in will help you determine whether or not **JEOPARDY** exists. For instance, an employee at the plant you are guarding who removes a shotgun from his trunk may be merely transferring it to another employee's trunk for a trip to the shooting range, or he may be heading into the plant in order to seek revenge for losing his job. You must evaluate all of the circumstances and actions, as well as the person's response to your questions or orders; all of these things will help you determine whether this person intends to put your life in jeopardy.

All Three Requirements Must Exist Before You May Use Deadly Force To Protect Yourself Or Another.

Review of Test Questions

You may use deadly force in self defense of another person has:

- the ability to greatly harm or kill you,
- the opportunity to greatly harm or kill you, and
- by his/her actions indicates intent to put your life in jeopardy.

Shooting Decision Scenarios

The scenarios that follow may be typical of those you encounter in real life. Put yourself into each scenario and in the space allowed write a description of the correct response or action you would take. In each scenario, make the decision to shoot or not to shoot.

Scenario #1: You are a lone-armed guard patrolling a warehouse on the night shift. The warehouse is located in an industrial area, and it contains electronic equipment, including televisions and stereos. It is 3:00 a.m. when you hear noises in an area of the warehouse and move to investigate. You cautiously approach the area and observe two men stacking cartons near a door. The door appears to have been forced open. Both men hear you approach and turn toward you - their hands are empty and they do not move in your direction.

Your Response:

Scenario #2: You are an armed plainclothes security guard in a department store. You have followed a suspicious woman in the store for about ten minutes and during that time observed her place several unpaid-for items in her purse. She passes the checkstand without paying and quickly heads for the parking lot. Just outside the store you identify yourself and ask her to accompany you back into the store. She refuses and continues to walk away. You identify yourself again and indicate that you are detaining her for shoplifting and that she must await the arrival of the police. She ignores you, and you place a hand on her arm to detain her. At this point, the shoplift suspect attacks you with her hands, striking and scratching you in the face. Then you feel your handgun, which is concealed under your coat, being pulled from the holster. You are able to grasp the gun, but she has both hands on it and is about to pull it from you.

Your Response:

Scenario #3: You are an armed private detective trying to locate a teenage girl who has run away from home. You have information that indicates that she may be staying with several other people in an apartment. You have arrived at this apartment, you hear shouting inside, but you knock on the door. The woman who answers the door is drunk and belligerent. You identify yourself and begin to ask her some questions when she turns away, leaving the door open, and begins to shout at a man who is standing in the living room. You have apparently interrupted a fight in progress. Suddenly the man pulls a large hunting knife from his belt and lunges at the woman, stabbing her. She is screaming for help and bleeding.

Your Response:

Scenario #4: You are an armed security guard on your way home from work. You are still in uniform and you have your duty gun belt on (this may be a violation of company policy). It is 1:00 AM but you decide to stop at the all-night market for a deli sandwich. As you step out of your car, two masked men back out of the store with guns in their hands. The store is well lit and you can see the clerk behind the counter who still has her hands held high in the air. You do not have a radio with which to call for help. The gunmen see you and begin to turn and point their guns toward you.

Your Response:

Scenario #5: You are an armored truck guard delivering cash to a store. As you step out of the truck, a man runs by and knocks you to the ground - he grabs the cash bag away from you and runs away.

Your Response:

Scenario #6: You are an armored truck guard delivering cash to a store in a busy shopping mall during business hours. A man steps out of a store as you walk by and pulls a baseball bat from under his coat; he hits your partner in the head, knocking him to the ground. You are carrying the cash bag and the man now turns toward you ready to swing the bat.

Your Response:

Scenario #7: You have been assigned a bank lobby as an area to guard. Although you are armed, your instructions are to trip the alarm if possible, but not to engage any armed robbers. You notice that one of the tellers is glancing toward you and that she looks scared. A customer is standing at her window. As you move toward the teller to find out what is wrong, the customer turns and you see him begin to draw a gun from under his jacket. At this point you are standing only five feet from the man with the gun.

Your Response:

Scenario #8: You are the armed gate guard at a storage facility. Your job is to identify people and vehicles going in and out of the gate, and to deny access to unauthorized people. A car has pulled up to the gate and the driver has been unable to show the proper identification or give you any good reason to allow entry. You have refused entry and have not opened the gate. The driver has been ordered to leave and begins to back away; suddenly he shifts into low gear and rams the gate, partially knocking it open. You draw your weapon to the low ready position and the driver sees you do this. He backs the car and turns the wheel to aim the car at you. Your only protection is a sheet-metal guard hut.

Your Response:

Scenario #9: You are an armed and uniformed guard patrolling a private residential area at night. Dispatch notifies you that there is an audible burglary alarm at one of the homes - the dispatcher says that the resident of this home is on vacation and will not be returning for at least another week. You respond and leave your patrol car to investigate the outside of the home. As you walk around the house checking doors and windows you come to the back door, which you find to be open.

As you look inside through the door, a man steps into view from another room. He is holding something in his hand that you believe to be a gun.

Your Response:

Scenario #10: You are an armed private detective hired to protect a local business that has been the target of harassment by local youth. In the past, considerable damage and vandalism have been done. You have stepped outside the business to get some fresh air and, as you round the corner of the building you see fresh graffiti painted on the wall. These are two young men standing by the wall - they turn toward you and you see a glint of metal in the hand of one subject.

Your Response:

CORRECT RESPONSES TO SHOOTING SCENARIOS

Scenario #1: At this point, this is a no-shoot situation. You have not been threatened and you are controlling the situation.

Scenario #2: If you are able to shoot to defend yourself, you are justified. The situation should make you fear for your life.

Scenario #3: You are not legally required to shoot. You are justified in shooting to protect the woman.

Scenario #4: You are justified in shooting to defend yourself. You should use verbal commands if time allows. You should seek cover.

Scenario #5: This is a felony robbery and you are justified in resisting it with deadly force. However, once the crime has happened, you are not justified in using deadly force merely to prevent the escape of the robber. Legally, you may pursue and attempt to apprehend the criminal.

Scenario #6: You are justified in shooting if the assailant is close enough to hit you. Use verbal commands if time allows. Check the area around and beyond your target. You may choose to resort to other measures if there is a danger to others such as bystanders nearby that may be struck if you miss your intended target.

Scenario #7: You are justified in pointing your gun at the man with the gun and giving verbal commands. If the man draws his gun and you feel your life is in danger, you are legally justified in shooting.

Scenario #8: You are justified in shooting to protect yourself. You may need to dodge out of the way of the vehicle. Shots from you that stop the driver may not stop the vehicle.

Scenario #9: You do not know whom the other man is and are not justified in shooting. You should take cover or retreat, and identify yourself, commanding the man to drop his gun.

Scenario #10: Identify yourself and command them to stop so that you can question them. If you believe that these men are armed, you may be justified in drawing your gun. This is a no-shoot situation until you know that one or both of these men is armed, and they show that they intend to assault you.

SAFE GUN HANDLING

Basic Safety Rules

Four basic rules of firearms safety are the foundation of good gun handling. These four rules apply to ALL situations. The rules apply on the firing range, at home, while on the job - everywhere and at all times.

1. ALL GUNS ARE ALWAYS LOADED. No Exceptions. Don't pretend that this is true; be deadly serious about it. The assumption that a gun is unloaded is the cause of many tragic shootings. Once the cylinder is closed on a revolver or the slide is closed (in battery) on a semi-auto pistol then the gun is a "loaded" gun, whether or not you believe that a round is in the chamber.

2. NEVER LET THE MUZZLE COVER ANYTHING YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO DESTROY. The muzzle end of a gun - the end the bullet comes out of - is the dangerous end of the gun. It is impossible to keep a firearm from being pointed somewhere, so unless you have a target to fire at, always keep your firearm pointed in a "safe direction". A safe direction is one in which, if an accidental discharge occurs, there will be no human injury or death and at most minor property damage. People who have been around guns a lot in a casual or uncontrolled environment often become careless about where the gun is pointing. You may hear them say, "Don't worry about it, it isn't loaded." Of course, this violates rule 1. If a gun is under your control (that is, in your hands) then you must always be aware of where the muzzle is pointed.

This rule is not just a shooting rule it is a handling rule. You are responsible for muzzle control while cleaning the gun, loading and unloading the gun and whenever you are carrying or holding the gun. This rule applies even while "indexing" during searching or challenging.

3. KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOUR SIGHTS ARE ON THE TARGET AND YOU ARE READY TO FIRE. The trigger finger must be off the trigger until you are "on target" and ready to fire. If you train on the range with this technique, then this will not be any slower than leaving your finger on the trigger. Your trigger finger stays off the trigger as the gun comes on target and goes on the trigger when you decide to fire. After firing the trigger finger comes off the trigger and stays off as you lower the gun to the low ready position.

The finger is not on the trigger during the following operations: when drawing the gun from the holster or removing a long gun like a shotgun or rifle from its rack; when searching with the gun in your hand; when running or moving with the gun in your hand; while reloading the gun; while clearing a malfunction of the gun; when holstering the gun or placing a long gun in its case or rack.

The purpose of this rule is to prevent the firing of the gun until you truly intend to fire it. This rule will prevent the vast majority of unintentional discharges. The fingers of the hand will all clench when you are startled, under extreme stress, about to lose your gun in a struggle, or when falling. Unless you have trained yourself to keep your finger off the trigger, you may fire the gun without intending to do so.

People under stress undergo physiological changes that include loss of the ability to perform precise movements with the hands and fingers. At the same time, muscle strength and tension increase. Even in a training environment it is possible to see this unconscious response to stress. Individuals carrying revolvers, who are improperly trained to keep their finger on the trigger, will often exert enough pressure on the trigger to pull the hammer halfway back, without being aware that they are doing this.

For these reasons, no matter what kind of gun is being used, the rule remains the same - keep your finger off the trigger until your gun is on target. The proper position for the trigger finger (when not on the trigger) is on the frame of the gun, outside of the trigger guard.

4. BE SURE OF THE TARGET, AS WELL AS THE SURROUNDINGS AND BEYOND.

You must identify the target and know what is behind and beyond it. If you intend to fire your weapon, you must be sure that you have properly identified your target. Even during the stress of a real gun battle, shooting at movement or muzzle flashes or any other unidentified target is a serious error, since you do not know at what you are shooting. Fellow officers who have not bothered to identify the target shoot many police officers each year. Those officers who work in plain, civilian clothes are at the greatest risk of being shot if they display a weapon. The same is true of private security officers and detectives.

Just because a person is armed does not automatically make him or her a threat, and does not sufficiently identify that person as someone you can shoot. In darkness, you should use your flashlight to identify the potential threat. Verbal challenges may also serve to help identify a questionable person.

Be aware of the area behind your intended target. Even in a situation where you are justified in shooting, there may be innocent bystanders behind and beyond the intended target; the presence of these people may cause you to hold your fire.

Modern handgun ammunition will penetrate several interior sheetrock walls, and some bullets will pass through exterior walls and retain enough energy to kill or wound someone on the other side. If you must shoot inside a building, do not consider walls of sheet metal, sheetrock, plywood, etc., as a safe, bullet-stopping background.

Although many consider a firing range to be a safe shooting environment, the responsibility for determining that it is safe to shoot is yours. It is possible for shooters to begin shooting when someone is still downrange behind the targets. Some firing ranges have a fairly low backstop behind the targets, and it is possible to fire bullets over the top of this backstop. A handgun bullet fired at a 30-degree angle may travel over 1/4 mile and retain enough energy to kill or wound.

Since you are pointing the gun and pulling the trigger, where and what the bullet hits is your responsibility.

There are no exceptions to the above basic safety rules. If you follow these rules, you cannot have a firearms "accident."

Safety While Cleaning Your Gun

The four basic safety rules covered above always apply while cleaning your gun. In addition, the gun must be unloaded in a safe place prior to cleaning or disassembly. Note that some semi-auto pistols (like the Glock) require that the user pull the trigger in order to disassemble the gun; of course, this means that the user must have a safe place to unload the gun, point the gun and pull the trigger before disassembling the gun. The safety ritual that must be observed whenever you clean or disassemble your gun is this:

1. You must remove all ammunition from the gun and the immediate area. The gun must be unloaded; the magazines empty, the duty belt and speed loaders/extra magazines removed from sight and reach.

Verify that the gun is empty both by looking and touching. Place your smallest finger in the chamber of a semi-automatic pistol (it is possible for a mechanical defect to cause a cartridge to remain in the chamber).

2. Permit no distractions during the process. If you are interrupted during the unloading or cleaning, you must go back to the beginning of this ritual to verify again that the gun is unloaded. Some interruptions that may lead to an accident include taking phone calls, watching television, having visitors or children come in. What often happens is that the gun is loaded at some point just before or during the interruption, and the user does not remember that the gun is loaded when he returns to it after the interruption. The user of the gun then treats the gun as if it is unloaded and fires it.
3. Make a conscious switch to practice mode. Tell yourself out loud that the gun is unloaded for the purpose of cleaning.
4. You must have a safe, bullet-stopping aim point if you will snap or dry-fire the gun during the cleaning, disassembly, or assembly process. Never violate the safety rules that require you to treat all guns as if they are loaded, and point the gun only at something you are willing to destroy.
5. Once the gun is reassembled make a conscious switch back to reality. Say out loud, "The gun is loaded and will fire if I pull the trigger." You must impress upon yourself that it is no longer safe to handle the gun.
6. When the gun is reassembled you should put it away immediately. The gun should be holstered and cased, whether loaded or not, and removed from sight and reach. If the gun is left within sight and reach, there will be a temptation to pick it up and snap the trigger.

There are no shortcuts to gun safety. If you follow the above ritual every time, you will not have a gun accident.

Home Safety

The four basic rules of gun safety apply at home, but there are some additional considerations since you may not be the only person who will have access to the gun at home. Children, spouse, relatives or visitors may have access to your gun if you keep it in the home. Guns attract the curious who may have no training in safe handling.

Here are some ideas that may help you maintain a safe home:

- Leave your gun at work with your employer. Many employers will not allow you take a gun home while others give you a choice. If you cannot secure the gun at home then consider asking your employer to arrange for safe storage.
- Lock your gun in the trunk of the vehicle that you use and control access to the keys.
- Install a deadbolt on a closet door and make a routine of placing your gun in the locked closet as soon as you arrive home.
- Buy a small lockable gun box to which only you have the combination.
- Install a trigger lock or bore lock on the gun when it is not in use. These are available in gun stores for a reasonable price.
- Educate your family and children about gun safety to minimize their risk, not only at your home, but also if they should encounter a gun while in another's home.
- Education of children is practical if they are at an age where they can understand your instructions and the concept of death, and can reasonably be expected to be responsible for their actions.
- No one can set the standard for safety in your home - you must decide how your gun is best stored. There are no statutes in this State governing the storage of guns in a private residence, but the courts have found in some civil cases that there is a duty to protect minors from access to firearms.

The Safe Low Ready Position

With a handgun, you may have a need to cover someone, or move with your gun out of the holster and in your hand. With a long gun such as a shotgun or rifle, you may need to have the gun at your shoulder but not pointed at a target. The position of readiness is referred to as low ready, and with the handgun it is the position in which you will carry your gun when it is not holstered but when you do not have a target at which you wish to point the gun. When a long gun is not being carried slung on the shoulder or in a safe port-arms position, use this position when you must carry the gun in readiness but when you do not have a target at which you are pointing the gun.

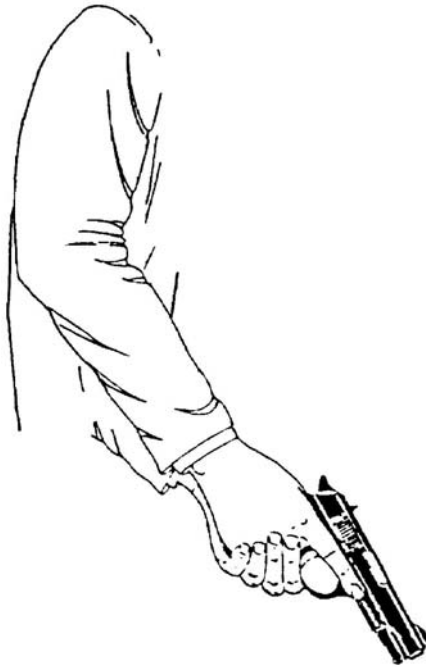


Fig. 1 Handgun Low Ready

To summarize, the ready position is the position in which you will carry your gun when it is not in the holster and not on target. The low ready position describes the direction the muzzle should be pointed - that is, the muzzle should be pointed down, at the ground, at about a 45-degree angle. The purpose of the low ready position is to maintain control of the muzzle of your gun at all times. Experience has shown that pointing the gun with the muzzle up is not as safe as the low ready position. Problems with the muzzle up position include:

- You may lean over the muzzle of the gun and risk shooting yourself in the head,
- You may, without realizing it, point the gun at bystanders who are above your position.

- You may discharge the gun in an unsafe direction if you unintentionally pull the trigger.
- You will probably be unaware of exactly where the muzzle of the gun is pointed.
- If you stumble or fall, the gun will probably be discharged in an unsafe direction.
- If you need to fire the gun, it is slower to bring the gun down onto the target than it is to bring it up.
- Your physical control of the gun is lessened by holding it up. If someone grabs the gun, they will probably be able to take it away from you. This is even more true with a long gun than a handgun.

The low ready position overcomes most of the problems stated above. With the muzzle of the gun low and in front of the body you are aware of where you are pointing the gun at all times. Unintentional discharges will be directed at the ground where the chance of hitting a bystander is minimized and the risk of ricochet is minimized. From the low ready position you can quickly bring the gun on target without obstructing your view of the target.

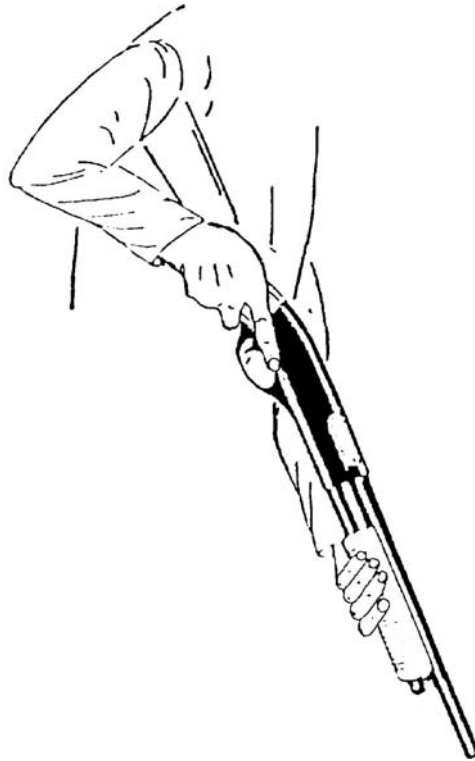


Fig. 2 Shotgun Low Ready

The four basic safety rules always apply. The rule that you never point your gun at anything you are not willing to destroy always applies. This means that if it is not safe to point your muzzle down then do not. One example would be the situation where you are following another individual down a stairway with your gun in your hand - in this case it is not safe to point the gun down if it will be pointing at this person. You must use your own good judgement and follow the basic rules of firearms safety, but in most cases the low ready position with the muzzle pointed down in front of you is the safest choice.

Review of Test Questions

The four basic rules of firearms safety are:

- 1. All guns are always loaded.**
- 2. Never let the muzzle cover anything that you are not willing to destroy**
- 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target and you are ready to fire.**
- 4. Be sure of your target, and what is behind and beyond it.**

GOOD SENSE TACTICS FOR THE USE OF FIREARMS

There is a lot of knowledge relating to how to best survive an armed, violent encounter. It is difficult to categorize this information under one subject, but for the purpose of instruction we are combining a number of different topics under the single category of “tactics.” This information has little to do with marksmanship, but it definitely relates to the practical use of the firearm.

Cartridge Capability And Hazards

Safe and sensible shoot/don’t shoot decisions and good judgment in the use of a gun are partially based on knowledge of the performance of a given cartridge and gun.

.38 special or 9mm Luger bullets will travel a maximum distance of about 6400 feet - this is over one mile.

.223 rifle bullets will travel a maximum distance of 11,600 feet - this is over two miles.

So, unless the bullet you fire strikes something which is capable of stopping it, it can travel well beyond the area you can see, and it will retain enough energy to wound or kill.

Warning Shots

It is not recommended that you fire warning shots into the air. You are not able to predict where a bullet you fire into the air will come down, thus such a shot is random and you have not aimed it at anything. A random warning shot violates the basic safety rules.

Many law enforcement agencies prohibit warning shots because of the danger to bystanders. The law does not specifically prohibit warning shots, therefore your good judgement and the physical environment in which you work govern the use of a warning shot. Should you decide to fire a warning shot, you must be prepared to justify your action. You must be able to show that it did not violate any of the four basic safety rules, most specifically “Never point the gun at anything you are not willing to destroy,” and “Be sure of your target and what is behind and beyond your target.” Your employer may have a policy on warning shots.

Nearly all-modern handgun bullets will penetrate sheetrock interior walls. Most will penetrate exterior walls made of plywood, cinder block or sheet metal. It is not unusual for a handgun bullet to penetrate the exterior and interior walls of a typical residence and still be able to kill or wound. Buckshot or slugs fired from a shotgun have a similar ability to penetrate. Any bullet or pellet which strikes a hard surface can ricochet, that is, bounce off. The angle of impact with the surface, the type of surface, and the construction and velocity of the bullet all combine to determine where the ricochet will go and how dangerous it is.

For example, a bullet striking a concrete wall at a shallow or flat angle will continue on with little reduction in velocity or energy, in approximately the same direction it was going before it hit the wall. Projectiles, especially shotgun pellets that strike the ground (even dirt or grass surfaced) will continue on. Clearly, you must be aware of your surroundings and this awareness will affect your decision to shoot.

Danger to Others

Even if you are legally justified in using deadly force, you may choose not to shoot because of the danger to others. No one is able to make these decisions for you, but here are some things that may help you make such a decision. Ask yourself these questions:

- Do I have any other options?
- Do I risk death or serious injury if I don't shoot?
- Is another person at risk of death or serious injury if I do not shoot?
- Are innocent bystanders behind, beyond or around the attacker?

Shooting at Vehicles

Shooting at vehicles is not usually recommended. It is difficult to stop a vehicle by shooting it or its tires. A handgun bullet will probably not puncture a typical tire and if it does then the vehicle will continue to travel some distance. Shooting the driver may result in the vehicle going out of control and causing serious injury to others.

If someone using a vehicle as a weapon assaults you you may be justified in defending yourself with deadly force; if this is the case then the appropriate target is your attacker, not the car. You may also be justified in defending yourself against someone who is shooting at you from a vehicle. Be certain that your decision to shoot is based on your need to defend yourself or another, and that this decision is also the best option available to you.

Cover and Concealment

Train yourself to take cover immediately if you are fired upon. If surprised and attacked by someone with a gun, your best immediate option may be to take cover and then defend yourself. Standing in the open and exchanging shots is a risky, poor, second choice.

Cover is defined, for our purposes, as anything that will stop a bullet. It is anything you can hide yourself behind that will not allow bullets to penetrate and hit you. Some examples are a telephone pole, a concrete wall or building, certain parts of an automobile (engine block, axles, wheels), and a heavy steel mailbox. Most wood walls and nearly all interior walls of both residences and businesses, and wood or metal doors will not provide cover - they will not stop bullets. Cover, even if it does not protect you completely is better than no cover at all.

Concealment is defined as anything that hides you but will not stop a bullet. Concealment is obviously not as good as cover but if your assailant cannot see you then he or she may not be able to shoot you. Some examples of concealment are: shrubs, sheetrock walls, tall grass, and hollow core wood doors.

The use of cover and concealment is one of the single best tactics in any kind of armed confrontation. Selecting a position where cover and concealment are available to you may allow you to control a situation without getting into a gunfight. Be aware of your surroundings and the potential cover and concealment they offer so that you will be able to take advantage of your environment if you are attacked.

Retreat

If you are able to anticipate that you may be entering an armed confrontation, it may be possible to retreat to a position of safety. You will be the judge as to whether this is possible or not. If property will be lost because of your retreat, then perhaps this is an acceptable option. A retreat that will cost someone else's life is less acceptable, and requires that you make the moral decision to stay or retreat.

There is absolutely nothing that requires you to risk your life unnecessarily. If the situation is clearly not winnable, it would be good judgment to avoid engaging in a deadly fight. For instance, five armed assailants would be more than one person should be expected to detain or confront.

Retreat is an option only if there is indeed a safe place to retreat to, or if additional help is on the way. Each situation is different and each situation will require that you exercise your own good judgement.

Distance

Distance from your attacker is almost always to your advantage. Maximize it if possible. This may mean move or retreat, if possible. You are trained and qualified with a firearm and most criminals will not be. Thus increased distance from an assailant reduces the chance that he/she can shoot at and hit you, but still allows you to defend yourself. Even well-trained police officers tend to get too close with a threatening person. Police may need to physically control an individual - you do not (usually). Keep your distance until it is safe to approach your assailant.

Corners and doorways are particularly difficult to approach safely, and the principle of maximizing distance is your best tactic. If you are moving toward a corner or doorway, move away from the wall so that you are not within grabbing distance. Then, move around the corner in an arc, one step at a time so that with each step a new segment of the room or area is within your view. Should you encounter a threat, temporary safety is achieved by quickly stepping back toward the wall.

Shoot from the Steadiest Position Possible

If you must shoot, you will probably be experiencing both physical and emotional stress which will interfere with your ability to shoot. Physical exertion, excitement and fear can all conspire to load your system with adrenalin. This is your body's natural reaction, and it will allow you to perform physical exertions normally beyond your ability. Although stress and excitement will increase your physical strength and endurance, they - through the action of the adrenalin - will also cause muscle tremors and shaking that will interfere with shooting and reloading. In short, while your strength increases, your ability to do fine, exacting, precision shooting disappears.

One partial solution is to brace yourself. The lower to the ground you can get, the more stable will your position be. Standing and shooting is less stable than kneeling, and kneeling is less stable than shooting from a prone position. You can train yourself to assume a low, steady shooting position, preferably one with adequate cover, by training from these positions on the range.

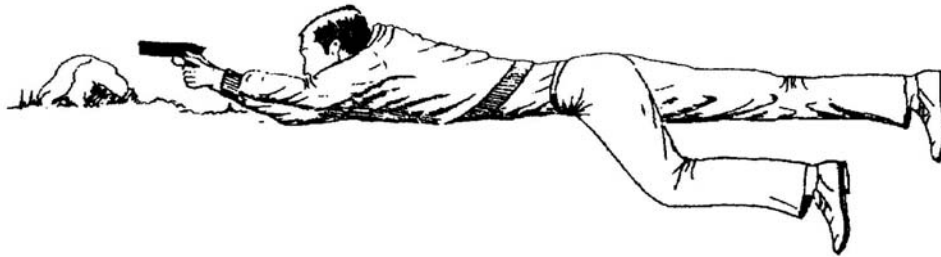


Fig. 3

When bracing your shooting position, it is best to support your body, your arms or your hands rather than the gun itself. In other words, try not to rest the barrel of the gun against a support. Placing the gun directly on a supporting wall will probably reduce your accuracy and, in the case of semi-auto pistols, will probably cause a malfunction of the gun. It is all right to press the frame or trigger guard against the support.

Center of Mass

If you must shoot at another human being, it will be in defense of life and your immediate goal is to stop the attacker from continuing. You will not be able to choose to shoot someone "just a little bit" in order to discourage them. You must fire immediately and hope that:

1. You hit your intended target, and
2. Your hits stop your attacker.

In order to do this, you should train to shoot at the center of your attacker's upper body. This is often called "center of mass" shooting. Under the stress of a deadly attack, this is the safest, most effective way to shoot. It minimizes the chance that you will miss your target, and reduces the possibility that you will hit an innocent bystander, and it increases the chance of stopping the attack.

If your attacker is not fully exposed, you may not be able to fire at the real center of mass. In this case, you should shoot for the center of available mass. In other words, place your sights in the center of that part of your attacker that is available.

Always try to use your sights - they are the key to hitting your target when under stress.

Target Identification

Night or day, your decision to shoot someone must be based on the legal need to defend yourself (as described elsewhere in this manual). Before you point your gun at someone and pull the trigger, you must correctly identify your target as the threat.

Target identification must be visual. You must see the person who is threatening you and know that you have identified the threat. A fellow security officer, or police officer, or an armed homeowner or armed citizen may not be a threat to you even though he/she has a gun. To avoid shooting an innocent person, you must identify yourself, determine who the threatening person is, and give the verbal commands which are appropriate.

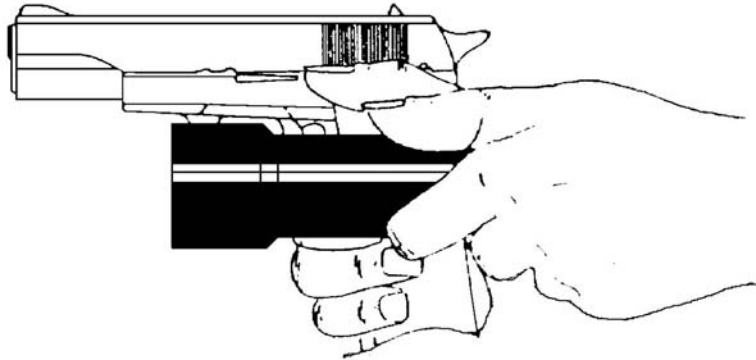
The target identification is very difficult at night and is best done from behind adequate cover, using a flashlight. Police officers and security officers do shoot each other, sometimes resulting in death. This is usually not truly accidental; rather, it is often the result of a failure to identify the threat.

Night and Dim Light Shooting

Many armed guards and detectives work during hours of darkness. Lack of light makes shooting and hitting the target more difficult than in full daylight.

However, the principles of shooting remain the same. You must try to see your sights. In many situations there will be enough light from streetlights, buildings or vehicle headlights to allow you to use your sights. If you must fire in near total darkness, you can do so by using a flashlight to both illuminate your sights and the target. Here are three ways to do this:

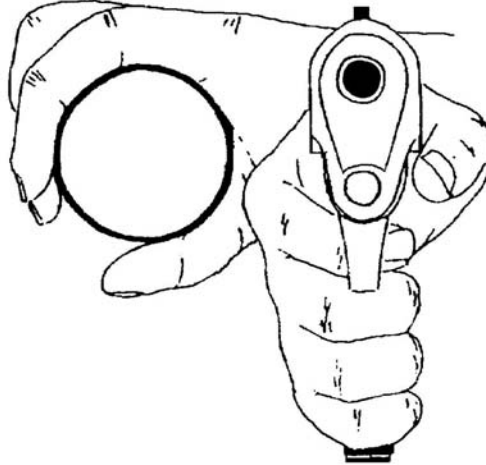
Flashlight Technique #1: Bring the gun and flashlight together in front of your body at eye level. The flashlight is held in the weak hand with thumb on the button and the palm beneath the flashlight. The hands will press together for stability, and will position the flashlight far enough back so that there is some light on the sights. This technique is very similar to the way some people shoot with two hands - it is like an isosceles or point-shoulder stance. (Massad Ayoob teaches this technique.)



Flashlight Technique #2: The flashlight is held in the weak hand, overhand, and the middle finger is on the button. The elbow of the flashlight arm is held down and the back of the flashlight holding hand is held tightly against the back of the gun hand. This technique looks like a Weaver shooting stance. (This technique is called the “Harries.”)



Flashlight Technique #3: The flashlight is held in the weak hand overhand, and the middle finger is on the button. The flashlight hand is brought down on top of the forearm holding the gun. The head of the flashlight will be behind and slightly to one side of the gun.

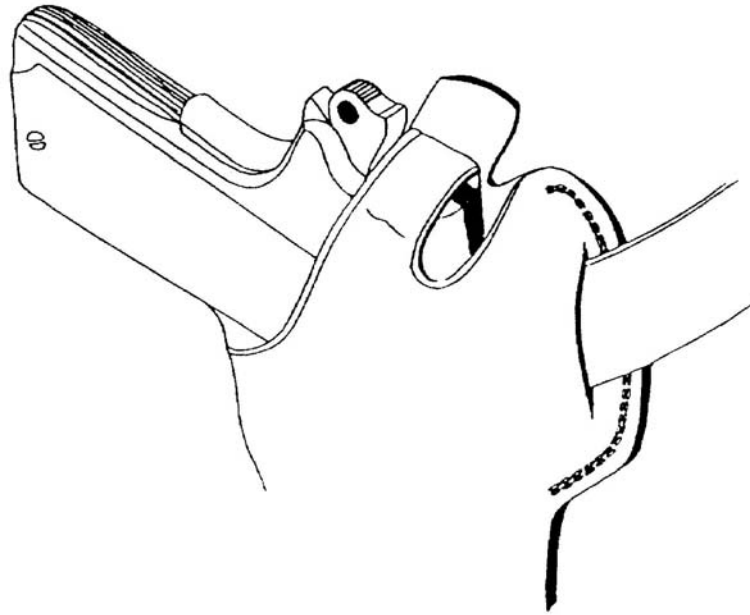


Use of any flashlight position requires that you hold the flashlight so that it is not struck by the moving slide of your semi-auto pistol. Do not hold the head of the flashlight behind your semi-auto.

When night firing, it is important to keep the flashlight off until it is needed to search and identify a target or shoot. The finger operating the flashlight button should turn off the light before you move or change position. If you must use the flashlight to shoot, do not turn it on until you need it, and then turn off the light immediately, before you begin to move. Since the flashlight has illuminated you and identified your location, you should move to a new position of safety and cover, if possible.

Holsters

Officers should carry the gun in a holster that adequately retains the gun. The holster should not be cut away in the area of the trigger guard in such a way as to allow you to place your finger on the trigger as you draw the gun. Carrying the gun on the strong side (the same side as your strong/dominant hand) has several advantages such as: quicker draw, quicker on target, easier to retain the gun and defend against a take-away attempt.



Pictured here is an example of a concealable holster for plain clothes wear

Review of Test Questions

Typical plywood and sheetrock residential construction will usually not stop a handgun bullet.

A warning shot fired at random into the air is not a recommended act.

For the purposes of protection from gunfire, cover is defined as anything that will stop a bullet.

Distance between you and your assailant is almost always in your favor.

Kneeling and prone positions are steadier to shoot from than a standing position.

Shooting for “center of mass” when defending yourself is recommended.

Shooting at a person you have not identified is not permissible.

When using a flashlight to aid in target identification and shooting, you should turn the light off before you move or change position.

A holster that allows you to place your finger on the trigger while the gun is in the holster is a safety hazard.

REVOLVER RELOADING

If you reload with your revolver while held in your weak hand, then any speed loader pouch or extra rounds should be carried on the strong side so that your strong hand will find them easily.

Carry at least one complete reload for your revolver. This reload will not only give you five or six more shots, it will also permit you to clear malfunctions that bind the revolver's action. Often, completely emptying the gun and reloading will make the gun operable again.

While there are many different techniques that will allow you to quickly reload your revolver, we will only present one technique here. Whichever technique you choose, the principles are the same:

- Do it the same way every time.
- Maintain control of the gun so that the muzzle is always pointed in a safe direction.
- Keep your finger off the trigger.
- Keep the gun close to your body to minimize shake.
- Use a method that you can do under stress.

The following technique is simple and effective:

Step 1: Right-handers use the thumb of the right hand to release the cylinder latch.

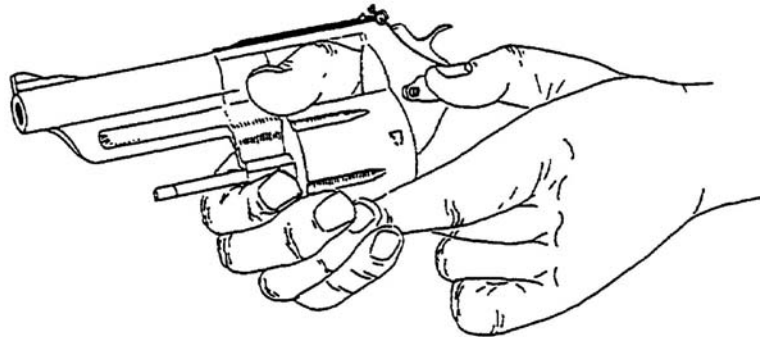


Right handed shooter releasing cylinder latch

Left-handers use the thumb of the left hand to release the cylinder latch.

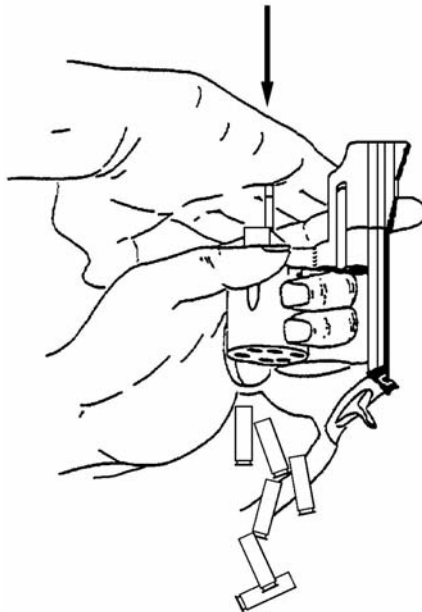
Step 2: Right-handers reach up with the left hand and use the fingers to push the cylinder open, and to grasp the gun through the frame and around the cylinder. The gun is now held in the left hand.

Left-handers reach up with the right hand and use the thumb to push the cylinder open, and to grasp the gun through the frame and around the cylinder. The gun is now held in the right hand.



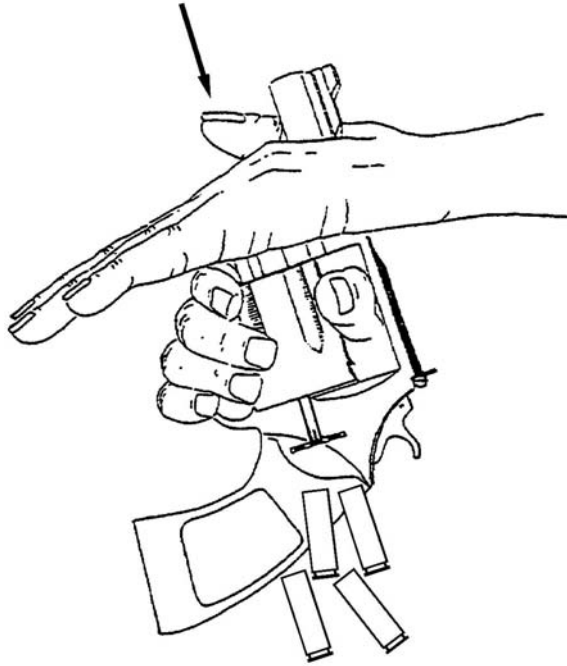
Left-handed shooter opening cylinder
(Gun held in right hand)

Step 3: Right-handers: Tilt the gun so the muzzle is straight up - vertical - and slap the ejector rod with the palm of the right hand.



Right-handed shooter ejecting cases

Left-handers: Tilt the gun so the muzzle is straight up - vertical. The gun will have the butt or grips pointed away from your body. Now, slap the ejector rod with the palm of the left hand.

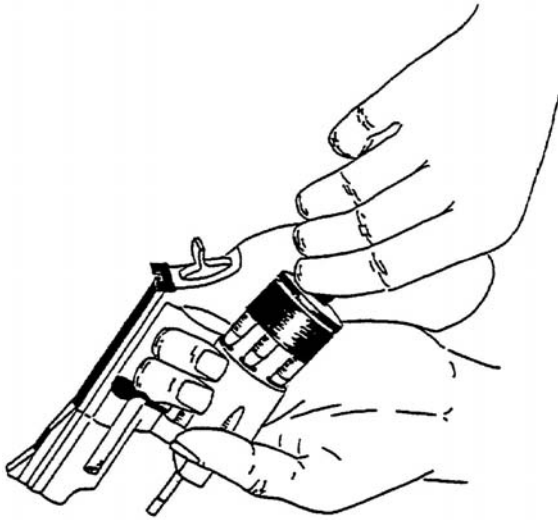


Left-handed shooter ejecting cases

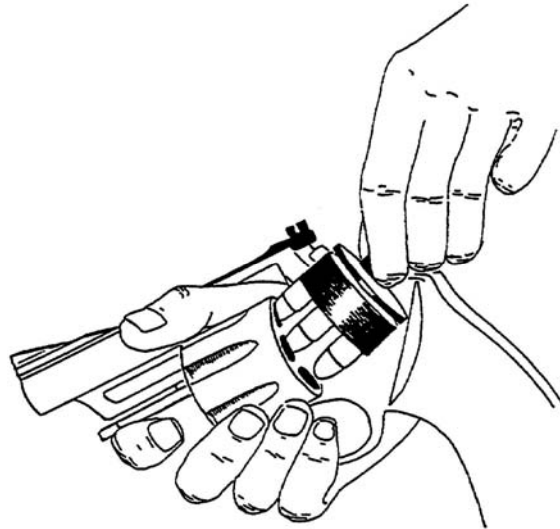
The vertical muzzle and slap of the ejector rod are critical - these steps guarantee that the shells in the gun will all eject.

Step 4: Now, rotate the gun so the muzzle is pointed down and the butt or grip of the gun is held against your body (for stability). The gun stays in your weak hand during this entire process.

Step 5: The strong hand locates the speed loader on your belt, removes it and brings it to the cylinder of the gun, where you allow the bullets to start into the chamber. Release the rounds from the speed loader (the action you take varies with the type of speed loader), and allow the speed loader to drop.



Right hand using speed loader



Left hand using speed loader



Right hand releasing rounds from speed loader

Step 6: Close and latch the cylinder with the weak hand while establishing a grip on the gun with the strong hand.

The gun is now reloaded. With practice this technique, which is safe and positive, can be accomplished easily within five seconds.

There are no written test questions on reloading, but this skill is part of the range qualification.

SEMI-AUTO PISTOL RELOADING

Semi-auto pistol users will locate any extra magazine pouches on the belt on the weak side of the body so that the weak hand will find them easily. This is essential since the semi-auto will be held in the strong hand throughout the reload process.

Carry at least one extra magazine for your pistol. This reload will give you additional shots, and will also permit you to clear malfunctions of the gun which may be caused by the ammunition or the magazine itself. Completely unloading (clearing) the gun and reloading with a fresh magazine will usually clear any malfunction and make the gun operable again.

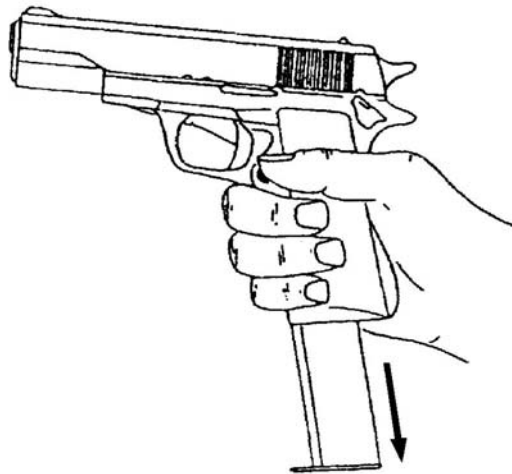
The principles of safety and good training always apply: Do it the same way every time, maintain control of the gun so that the muzzle is always pointed in a safe direction, and keep your finger off the trigger during the reload.

The following technique is recommended:

Step 1: Keep the gun in your strong hand, pointed in the direction of the threat.

The weak hand locates the spare magazine and removes it from the pouch.

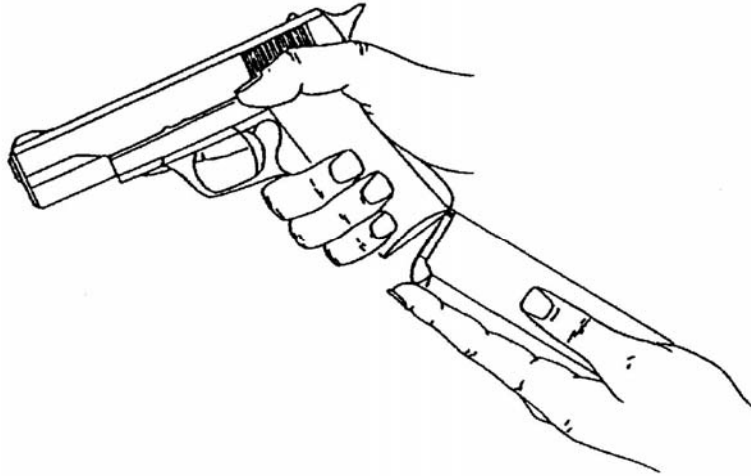
Step 2: Right-handers press the magazine release button with the thumb of the right hand.



Right-handed shooter ejecting magazine

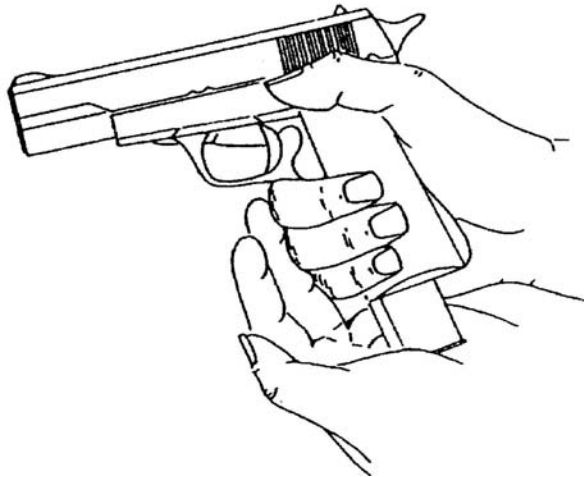
Left-handers press the magazine release button with the index finger of the left hand. This will allow the magazine to drop from the gun. If the magazine does not drop completely from the gun, reach up and hook the little finger of the weak hand over the front of the magazine floor plate and pull the magazine from the gun. Allow the magazine to drop from the gun.

Step 3: Insert the magazine into the gun. Guide it into the magazine well by holding the magazine with the index finger of the left hand along the front of the magazine; the index finger will find the little finger of the gun hand, and help guide the magazine into place.



Right-handed shooter beginning to insert fresh magazine

The magazine should be seated firmly with the heel of the weak hand.



Right-handed shooter seating fresh magazine

The gun is now reloaded. This technique assumes that you have reloaded with a round still in the chamber. This is always preferable to completely emptying the gun.

If you should fire your gun until it is empty and the slide is locked open, then the reload is the same but you must perform one additional step.

Step 4: (used only if the gun has been fired until the slide is locked open) Reach up and grasp the slide at the rear (there are usually serrations or grooves to prevent your fingers from slipping); pull it sharply to the rear, and release it. This will chamber a new round. Your pistol is now loaded.

There are no written test questions on reloading, but this skill is part of the range qualification.

LOADING AND UNLOADING

Here are the steps of a safe procedure for loading any revolver:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Release the cylinder latch and open the cylinder,
- Load the cartridges into the cylinder,
- Close the cylinder and latch it,
- Note that the hammer should be down during this process and should not be cocked before, during or after the loading,
- Holster the gun.

Unload the revolver by doing the following:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Release the cylinder latch and open the cylinder,
- Empty the cartridges into your hand - use the ejector rod to assist if they stick,
- Visually verify that the cylinder is empty - leave the cylinder open for inspection or maintenance, or close it if the weapon will be stored.

Here are the steps for a safe procedure for loading a semiautomatic pistol:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Insert a full magazine into the magazine well, seating it sharply,
- With the weak hand, pull back the slide fully and then let it go forward on its own,
- With a single action pistol, engage the safety,
- With a double-action pistol, use the appropriate lever to decock the hammer, and then verify that the safety is in the position in which you wish it to be,
- With a Glock pistol no further action is required since there is no manual safety or hammer de-cocking lever,
- You may now holster the pistol or fire.

Unload the semi-auto pistol by doing the following:

- Point the gun in a safe direction. Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Keep the gun in your strong hand,
- Push the magazine release to eject the magazine, and remove the magazine with your weak hand,
- Use your weak hand to pull the slide to the rear while the thumb of your strong hand pushes up on the slide stop—this will lock the slide in an open position,

- Look and feel through the ejection port to verify that the chamber is empty,
- Leave the slide locked open for inspection,
- Pull the slide to the rear and then allow it go forward, use the appropriate lever to de-cock the hammer,
- Holster or case the pistol.

Load the pump shotgun as follows:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Keep the gun in your strong hand,
- Check the chamber to verify that it is empty, and then close the action,
- Pull the trigger to lower the hammer,
- Place the safety on safe,
- Use your weak hand to load cartridges into the magazine tube,
- Place the shotgun into the rack or case.

Unload the pump shotgun as follows:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Keep the gun in your strong hand,
- Use the action bar lock release, if necessary, to open the action,
- Draw the forend back to partially open the action - open the action just far enough for a chambered round to eject, or to verify that there is no round in the chamber,
- Turn the gun upside down, and push the shell carrier toward the chamber,
- Draw the forend fully back - this will eject the next round in the magazine,
- Push the shell latches inside the receiver to release the remaining rounds, one at a time,
- Touch and feel both chamber and magazine to verify that the gun is empty.

Typically, the semi-auto rifle such as a Colt AR-15 or Ruger mini-14 may be loaded as follows:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- Keep the gun in your strong hand,
- Open the action to verify that the chamber is empty - look and feel,
- Close the action,
- Place the safety in your position of choice,
- Insert a fully loaded magazine.

The semi-auto rifle may be unloaded as follows:

- Point the gun in a safe direction,
- Keep your finger off the trigger,
- The safety should be on safe,
- Keep the gun in your strong hand,
- Remove the magazine,
- Open the action to eject any chambered round,
- Lock the action open,
- Look and feel to verify that the chamber is empty

There are no written test questions on safe loading and unloading, but this skill must be demonstrated as part of your range test.

Credits

This manual has been created and written by Philip Shave, Firearms Coordinator for the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission.

The illustrations are by Mr. Ted Williams.

The four safety rules are derived from material taught by Mr. Jeff Cooper at his school in Gunsite, Arizona. These rules and much additional information can be found in The Modern Technique of the Pistol by Morrison, 1991. Gunsite Press, Box 401, Paulden AZ 86334.

Senior Counsel General John Wasberg provided legal review and advice.

The safety procedures for gun cleaning are based on an article, “The Safe Dry Fire Ritual,” by Deputy Bill Burris, Published by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission in its Firearms Instructor Manual.

The “Ayoob” flashlight shooting technique was developed by Massad Ayoob, and is described in detail in his book Stressfire, available from the Police Bookshelf, Box 122, Concord NH 03301.

2003 Update by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission and Washington State Security Council, Inc.

Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission
Firearm Certification for Private Security/Private Detective
2005

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FIREARMS CERTIFICATION TESTS

You may wish to review and practice the following tests to ensure passage of the certification. The written test questions are all contained in the Study Guide's "Review of Test Questions" shaded boxes at the end of each section.



APPLICATION FIREARMS CERTIFICATION
Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 726

Revised 2/2005

Return completed application & payment to:
**Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission**
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905

Instructions:

- 1) Employer must complete and sign this form and return it to the Training Commission with required test sheets. (Forms CJT 728, 729, or 730) Attach original firearms certification test sheets which have been completed & signed by a certified instructor and the applicant. There must be a qualification course sheet for each weapon you have listed below with a completed knowledge test (Form CJT 731). Attach a copy of the applicant's current armed or unarmed license (as issued by the Dept. of Licensing).
- 2) **8-Hour Certification:** Enclose a check for \$31.00, Checks are to be made payable to: WSCJTC.
4-Hour Recertification: Employing agency shall maintain proof of annual shooting requirements for their records only.
- 3) You will receive notice of certification within ten working days of the Commission's receipt of this application. Use the firearms certification number you receive to request an armed security guard or armed private investigator license from the Washington State Department of Licensing.

Please type or print ALL information legibly

CERTIFICATION TYPE:

- ☐ **8-HOUR CERTIFICATION** (New)
☐ **4-HOUR RECERTIFICATION** (Annual Requirement)
☐ **ADDING FIREARM**(Or Changing Firearm)

NAME (Last)		(First)	(MI)	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
D.O.L. GUARD / INVESTIGATOR LICENSE NUMBER			D.O.L. EXPIRATION DATE		DATE OF BIRTH
AGENCY / COMPANY NAME:			E-Mail Address (for Certificates)		
ADDRESS & ZIP CODE:					
PHONE:			BUSINESS LICENSE NUMBER:		

Gun(s) provided by employer for which certification is requested (*check & complete all that apply*):

<input type="checkbox"/> HANDGUN	Manufacturer _____	Model Name or # _____	Caliber _____
	Manufacturer _____	Model Name or # _____	Caliber _____
	Manufacturer _____	Model Name or # _____	Caliber _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SHOTGUN	Manufacturer _____	Model Name or # _____	Caliber _____
<input type="checkbox"/> RIFLE	Manufacturer _____	Model Name or # _____	Caliber _____

The applicant named herein is at least 21 years of age and possesses a current and valid security guard or private detective license.

(Print name) Company owner/designee

(Signature) Company owner/designee

CJTC Use Only

- ☐ **Approved** _____
☐ **Disapproved** _____

- ☐ **Handgun**
☐ **Handgun**
☐ **Handgun**
☐ **Shotgun**
☐ **Rifle**

CJTC Use Only

Received: \$ _____

FIREARMS CERTIFICATION #:

900 _ _ _ _

Please visit our website for Private Security information.
www.cjtc.state.wa.us

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**FIREARMS CERTIFICATION TEST**

Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 731
Revised 2/05

Complete and attach this test to Form CJT 726 and return to:

**Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905
Phone (206) 835-7376 / Seattle**

Applicant Name:

This is a pass/fail test. The applicant for firearms certification must answer all of the questions correctly to pass. The use of the "Study Guide" and notes is permitted. The instructor may allow you to retest if he/she decides that you understand the material completely.

Answer the following questions by marking the correct answer, filling in the blank, or choosing true (T) or false (F).

1. You may/may not perform the duties of an armed private security guard or armed private detective while waiting for your armed license to be issued by the Department of Licensing.	May <input type="checkbox"/> May not <input type="checkbox"/>
2. You must be certified with each firearm that you will use on the job. A change in the type of firearm you use requires recertification.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
3. The instructor has absolute authority over the handling of firearms during this certification.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
4. The decision to carry or use a gun is a choice that is made by you/your employer.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Before carrying a gun, you must thoroughly understand the law on the use of deadly force.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
6. You may use only _____ and _____ force to protect property or lawfully detain a suspected criminal.	
7. The law usually allows you to use deadly force to prevent a property crime.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
8. The law allows you to use deadly force to defend your life.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
9. The law does not allow you to use deadly force to defend another person's life.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
10. Any use of force by you must be _____ and _____ to overcome resistance to your lawful order.	
11. A private citizen has a duty or requirement to use deadly force in some situations.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
12. After using force, you are required to talk to the police before you have a chance to get legal advice.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
13. After using force, you should administer _____ to someone you have injured, when it is safe to do so.	
14. After using force, you must call for _____ and _____ assistance as soon as possible.	
15. When the police arrive, you should identify yourself clearly and pose no threat to the police in order to reduce the chance that you will be mistaken for a _____.	
16. Your employer may be held criminally responsible for your actions with a firearm.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
17. Pointing a firearm at another person, without a legitimate reason to do so, is an _____.	
18. Recklessness by you which results in the death of another is _____.	
19. Intentional and unlawful killing of another person is _____.	
20. Someone whom you injure may sue you for monetary damages if you have used force recklessly or illegally.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
21. The best defense against a civil suit is knowledge of law, good _____ and adequate training with your weapon and use of force.	

22. When confronting someone or giving commands you should first _____ yourself.	
23. You should give a command like, "Stop or I will shoot" before using _____ if time allows you to do so.	
24. You may use deadly force in self defense if another person has: the _____ to greatly harm or kill you, the _____ to greatly harm or kill you, and by their actions indicates an intent to put your life in _____.	
The four basic rules of firearms safety are (give the complete sentence or phrase):	
25. _____	
26. _____	
27. _____	
28. _____	
29. Typical plywood and sheetrock residential construction will usually not stop a handgun bullet.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
30. A warning shot fired at random into the air is/is not a recommended act.	Is <input type="checkbox"/> Is not <input type="checkbox"/>
31. For the purposes of protection from gunfire, cover is defined as anything that will stop a bullet.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
32. Distance between you and your assailant is almost always a disadvantage to you.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
33. Kneeling and prone positions are steadier to shoot from than a standing position.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
34. Shooting for "_____ of _____" when defending yourself is recommended.	
35. Shooting at a person you have not identified is/is not permissible.	Is <input type="checkbox"/> Is not <input type="checkbox"/>
36. When using a flashlight to aid in target identification and shooting, you should turn the light off before you _____.	
37. A holster that allows you to place your finger on the trigger while the gun is in the holster is safe and acceptable.	T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
Shooter's Name: (please print)	Results: PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED <input type="checkbox"/>
Shooter's Signature:	
Range/Location	Date of test
Instructor phone #	Instructor e-mail
Instructor name (print)	Instructor Signature:

**HANDGUN TEST**

Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 729
Form updated 2/05

Complete and attach this test to Form CJT 726 and return to:

**Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905**

Instructions:

The individual being tested must demonstrate each skill to qualify. This is a pass/fail test that should be conducted in the range, one-on-one, so that the instructor can verify each skill.

The individual should report to the firing line with the handgun in the holster. The instructor will ask the individual to perform the following activities. As the individual performs the training exercises, the instructor shall mark off each box showing that the exercises have been completed.

HANDGUN SKILLS AND SAFETY TEST

1. Draw the handgun from the holster and bring the gun to a low ready position.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Safety engaged (on), single-action autos only
 - ☐ Able to release retention devices and draw using only the gun hand
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
2. Load the handgun using speed loader or magazine.
 - ☐ Semi-autos held in strong hand, revolver may be switched to weak hand
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
 - ☐ Properly chambers a round using slide stop or pulling slide to rear on semi-auto, closing the cylinder on revolver
 - ☐ Lowers, de-cocks the hammer on a double-action semi-auto, engages the safety on a single-action automatic
3. Move forward 7-10 yards, with the gun at low ready.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed down at about 45%
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
4. Unload gun for inspection.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Rounds ejected from the revolver; or magazine removed from semi-auto and slide pulled to rear to clear chamber
 - ☐ Cylinder left open on revolver; or slide locked open on semi-automatic
5. Close action on gun and come to ready position.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Closes cylinder on revolver; or closes slide on semi-auto
 - ☐ Lowers/de-cocks the hammer on a double-action semi-auto, engages the safety on a single-action semiautomatic
6. Holster the gun.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Able to apply all holster retention devices

SHOOTER'S NAME:

DATE CJTC RECEIVED

8 hour certification ☐

4 hour re-certification ☐

HANDGUN QUALIFICATION COURSE**Instructions:**

- 30 rounds fired.
- Any malfunctions must be cleared during time allowed.
- All rounds fired must be on the silhouette target.
- B-27 target is to be used, scoring the rings as marked.
- Passing range score is 210 (70%).

Range/Yards	Position/Instructions	Shots	Time/seconds	SCORE	
				#1	#2
25	Draw, fire 3 right side barricade, fire 3 left side barricade	6	30		
15	Draw, fire 6, speed load, kneel, fire 6	12	35		
7	Draw, fire 2, to ready position	2	5		
7	From ready position, fire 2, to ready position	2	3		
7	From ready position, fire 2, speed load, fire 6	8	16		

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE 300**FINAL SCORE**

1. All rounds on target?

Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Number Score _____

Shooter's Name: (please print)**SKILLS TEST:**PASSED ☐ FAILED ☐**QUALIFICATION COURSE:**PASSED ☐ FAILED ☐**Shooter's Signature:**

GUN USED FOR CERTIFICATION TEST: Make _____ Model _____ Caliber _____

AMMUNITION USED FOR TEST (Revolvers only, example, .38 Special or .357 Magnum) _____

Range/Location	Date of test
Instructor name (print)	Instructor e-mail
Instructor name (signature)	Instructor phone #

Please visit our website for Private Security information.

www.cjtc.state.wa.us

**RIFLE TEST**

Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 730
Form updated 2/05

Complete and attach this test to Form CJT 726 and return to:

**Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905**

Instructions:

The individual being tested must demonstrate each skill to qualify. This is a pass/fail test that should be conducted in the range, one-on-one, so that the instructor can verify each skill.

The individual should report to the firing line with the rifle unloaded, action open, safety on, with the gun slung on the shoulder or carried with the muzzle high and pointed in a safe direction. The instructor will ask the individual to perform the following activities. As the individual performs the training exercises, the instructor shall mark off each box showing that the exercises have been completed.

RIFLE SKILLS AND SAFETY TEST

1. Bring the gun from safe carry to shoulder, low ready position.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
 - ☐ Low ready correctly demonstrated with muzzle about 45%
2. Duty load the rifle with the gun on the shoulder, chamber closed, and safety on (no round on chamber).
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
 - ☐ Gun stays on shoulder, held by strong hand
 - ☐ Loads with weak hand
3. With gun at low ready, the shooter will move forward about 10 yards.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Low ready correctly demonstrated with muzzle pointed down at about 45%
 - ☐ Gun stays on shoulder
4. Unload gun for inspection.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Magazine out first
 - ☐ Action open to clear chamber
 - ☐ Action locked open, if possible
 - ☐ Checks chamber by sight and touch
 - ☐ Leaves action open
5. Bring gun to safe carry position: slung or pocket carry, muzzle high.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Action remains open
 - ☐ Safe sling or carry position

SHOOTER'S NAME:

DATE CJTC RECEIVED

8 hour certification ☐

4 hour re-certification ☐

RIFLE QUALIFICATION COURSE**Instructions:**

- 22 rounds fired.
- All exercises begin at low ready, gun loaded.
- All malfunctions must be cleared during time allowed.
- All rounds fired must be on the silhouette target.
- B-27 target is to be used, scoring the rings as marked.
- Passing range score is 152(70%).

Range/Yards	Position/Instructions	Shots	Time/seconds	SCORE	
				#1	#2
50	Choice	6	30		
25	Offhand	2 2	4 4		
25	Kneeling	2	5		
15	Offhand	2 2	3 3		
7	Offhand	2 2 2	2 2 2		

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE 220**FINAL SCORE**

1. All rounds on target?

Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Number Score

Shooter's Name (Please Print):**SKILLS TEST:**PASSED ☐ FAILED ☐**QUALIFICATION COURSE:**PASSED ☐ FAILED ☐**Shooter's Signature:****GUN USED FOR CERTIFICATION TEST: Make _____ Model _____ Caliber _____**

Range/Location	Date of test
Instructor name (print)	Instructor e-mail
Instructor name (signature)	Instructor phone #

Please visit our website for Private Security information.

www.cjtc.state.wa.us

**SHOTGUN TEST**

Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 728

Complete and attach this test to Form CJT 726 and return to:

**Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905**

Instructions:

The individual being tested must demonstrate each skill to qualify. This is a pass/fail test that should be conducted in the range, one-on-one, so that the instructor can verify each skill.

The individual should report to the firing line with the shotgun unloaded, action open, safety on, with the gun slung on the shoulder or carried with the muzzle high and pointed in a safe direction. The instructor will ask the individual to perform the following activities. As the individual performs the training exercises, the instructor shall mark off each box showing that the exercises have been completed.

SHOTGUN SKILLS AND SAFETY TEST

1. Bring the gun from safe carry to shoulder, low ready position.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
 - ☐ Low ready correctly demonstrated with muzzle about 45%
2. Duty load the rifle with the gun on the shoulder, chamber closed, and safety on (no round on chamber).
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in safe direction
 - ☐ Gun stays on shoulder, held by strong hand
 - ☐ Loads with weak hand
3. With gun at low ready, the shooter will move forward about 10 yards.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Low ready correctly demonstrated with muzzle pointed down at about 45%
 - ☐ Gun stays on shoulder
4. Unload gun for inspection.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Action partially open during unload
 - ☐ Rounds not chambered during unload
 - ☐ Leaves action open
5. Bring gun to safe carry position: slung, or pocket carry, muzzle high.
 - ☐ Finger off the trigger
 - ☐ Muzzle pointed in a safe direction
 - ☐ Action remains open
 - ☐ Safe sling or carry position

SHOOTER'S NAME: (please print)

DATE CJTC RECEIVED

8 hour certification ☐

4 hour re-certification ☐

SHOTGUN QUALIFICATION COURSE					
Range/Yards	Position/Instructions	Shots	Time/seconds	SCORE	
				Required	Actual
25	First target: from ready position, fire 2 (load 2, not timed).	2	10	50% on silhouette	
15	Second target: from ready position, fire 2, load 2, fire 2 (load 2, not timed).	4	18	80% on silhouette	
7	Third target: from ready position, fire 2, load 2, fire 2 (load 2, not timed).	4	12	100% on silhouette	
5	Third target: from ready position, fire 2, load 2, fire 2 (load 2, not timed).	4	10	100% on silhouette	
3	From ready, fire 2, unload	2	2	100% on silhouette	
Shooter's Name (Please Print):			SKILLS TEST: PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED <input type="checkbox"/> QUALIFICATION COURSE: PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED <input type="checkbox"/>		
Shooter's signature:					
GUN USED FOR CERTIFICATION TEST: Make _____ Model _____ Gauge _____					
Range/Location			Date of test		
Instructor name (print)			Instructor e-mail		
Instructor name (signature)			Instructor phone #		

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ATTENDEE ROSTER
FIREARMS CERTIFICATIONS
Private Security Guards and Private Detectives
FORM CJT 727
Updated 2/05

Return completed roster to:
Washington State Criminal Justice
Training Commission
PO Box 40905
Olympia WA 98504-0905

Instructions:

STUDENT-Complete name, birth date & social security number

INSTRUCTOR-Complete type of gun, class hours and pass/fail information.

PLEASE PRINT IN INK

ATTENDEE NAME			DATE OF BIRTH	SOCIAL SECURITY #	Hand gun	Shot gun	Rifle	8 hour	4 hour	INSTRUCTOR USE ONLY PASS/FAIL
Last	First	MI	Mo / Day / Yr							
1.										
2.										
3.										
4.										
5.										
6.										
7.										
9.										
10.										
11.										
12.										
13.										
14.										
15.										

INSTRUCTOR: PLEASE COMPLETE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING.

RANGE/LOCATION _____ DATE OF CLASS _____

INSTRUCTOR E-MAIL _____ INSTRUCTOR PHONE# _____
(PRINT)

INSTRUCTOR _____ INSTRUCTOR _____
(PRINT) (SIGNATURE)